

THESIS

STRUGGLE AGAINST MALE DOMINATION IN HAREM TRADITION AS REFLECTED  
IN FATIMA MERNISSI'S *DREAMS OF TRESPASS: TALES OF A HAREM GIRLHOOD*



Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Master Degree in

Language Study

at Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta

by

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MAGISTER OF LANGUAGE STUDY

MUHAMMADIYAH UNIVERSITY OF SURAKARTA

2014

**APPROVAL OF THESIS FOR SUBMISSION**

**STRUGGLE AGAINST MALE DOMINATION IN HAREM  
TRADITION AS REFLECTED IN FATIMA MERNISSI'S DREAMS  
OF TRESPASS: TALES OF HAREM GIRLHOOD**

submitted by

**KUSUMA WARDANI**

has been examined for all revisions and corrections recommended  
by the board of examiners on March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
and is certified to be accepted for submission

**THE EXAMINER BOARD**

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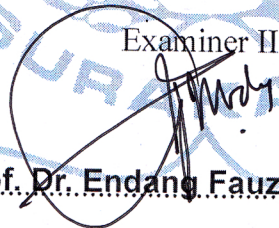
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Examiner III



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Thesis entitled: Struggle Against Male Domination in Harem Tradition as  
reflected in Fatima Mernissi's *Dreams of Trespass: Tales of A  
Harem Girlhood*

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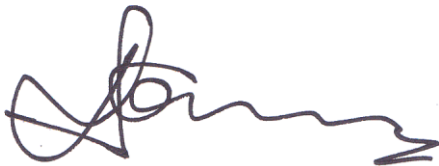
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examiners on:

Day : Saturday

Date : March 29<sup>th</sup> 2014

Surakarta, March 2014

First Advisor



Prof. Dr. C. Bakdi Sumanto, SU

Second Advisor



Dr. M. Thoyibi

### **Note of Advisor I**

Prof. Dr. C. Bakdi Sumanto, SU

Lecturer of Magister of Language Study, Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta.

Official Note on Kusuma Wardani's thesis

Dear,

The Director of School of Graduate Studies Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta.

Having read, examined, corrected and necessary revised toward the thesis of:

Name : Kusuma Wardani

NIM : S. 200 090 019

Program : Magister of Language Study

Focused on : Literature

Thesis entitled: Struggle Against Male Domination in Harem Tradition as  
Reflected in Fatima Mernissi's *Dreams of Trespass: Tales of A  
Harem Girlhood*

I accept that the thesis is approved to be examined by the board of examiners in  
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Surakarta, 2014

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Official Note on Kusuma Wardani's thesis

Dear,

The Director of School of Graduate Studies Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta.

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Surakarta, 2014

Second Advisor



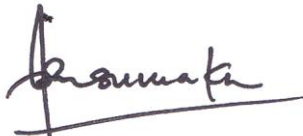
Dr. M. Thoyibi

## DECLARATION

I, KUSUMA WARDANI, hereby declare that this thesis is a record of an original research work. I am completely responsible for its content. All of the quotations and references have been duly acknowledged. If my declaration is proved incorrect one day, I am willing to accept all of the consequences.

Surakarta, March 2014

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Kusuma Wardani', with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

Kusuma Wardani

S.200.090.019

## DEDICATION

*Affectionately dedicated to*

***MY MOM, WAHYU BASUKI,***

*Thanks ALLAH for giving me a perfect mom, like her*

*And*

***MY DAD, ZULVA KAMIL,***

*Thank You for loving and supporting me, dad*

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My special thanks go to my family; my perfect mother who gives me motivation, power, patience and always accompanies me typing and also prepares the food and drink for me, at anytime I type this thesis. My dad who always cares and supports me, My sister, Ariviani Dewi (Dhe wiek), thanks for the materials you've given to me, your suggestions about my thesis, your comments and your patience which make my thesis successful end. Thanks for My brother, Deny Destomo, I wish you yourself have motivation to continue your study, My sister-in-law, Eny Nuryati, I wish you will continue your study soon, My nephew, Arkka Adhyatmakasukha Destomo who joins in typing sometimes and My


beautiful niece, Ratnakanyaka Apinta Destomo, who always makes me laugh because of her speech. Thank you so much for everything.

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At last but not least, I realize the thesis is far from being perfect but I hope, it's useful for the readers to enrich the knowledge in literature. Any comments, critics and suggestion will be valuable for a better work.

Saturday, March 2014



*Kusuma Wardani*

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## ABSTRACT

KUSUMA WARDANI. NIM: S. 200 090 019. *Struggle Against Male Domination in Harem Tradition as Reflected in Fatima Mernissi's Dreams of Trespass: Tales of A Harem Girlhood*. A Thesis. School of Graduate Studies, Magister of Language Study Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta, 2014.

The objectives of the research are (1) to reveal Fatima Mernissi's struggle against male domination, and (2) to reveal Fatima Mernissi's criticism against women marginalization.

The research method is descriptive qualitative method. The data source are taken from the text in *Dreams of Trespass: Tales of A Harem Girlhood* that cover words, phrases, clauses sentences, dialogues, narrations and also textbooks, internet, journals or articles. The technique of data analysis uses taking note, paraphrase, reading from the data source to find out the theory and information. Radical Feminist Theory and Postcolonial Theory are used to scrutinize Moroccans' ideology.

The finding of the research is the root of women's oppression is patriarchy. In *Dreams of Trespass: Tales of A Harem Girlhood*, Mernissi shows that patriarchy becomes the foundation to oppress women through the inequality treatment between female and male infant in her harem and Moroccan's society where the sex differences become the huge matter since they were born, in household task, economic, information, education, politics, women hair business, beauty norms and traveling. This study also discovers that violence against women is related with the subordinate of women status in society. It occurs through gender based violence which is including physical, sexual, psychological, and economic abuse. Patriarchy makes a supreme effort to use their domination based on the falsely interpretation of religious tenets, tradition through the cultural practice, norm in the family council to refuse all the matters which probably endanger the existence of patriarchy such as women's limited access to the justice system in the equal divorce rights and early marriage where the doers are men who live with the same house with them as husband, father, cousin, nephew and sibling in the family. It is almost impossible disclosed when it occurs in a private place and particularly if male family members are responsible for the violations. Women as the victims are reluctant to defend their rights in the name of family reputation.

The finding further discovers that women become the important variable in subaltern class. There is no subject position for women to speak up, express their idea and represent themselves. Subaltern women are addressed to Mernissi's women who are totally in silence to right for education, Illiteracy, dress code and fashion, mealtime, movies, hammam (public bath), picnic and hadra. As the oppressed subject, they need awareness to speak and only the educated people who can help them to speak up and also give them proper education and prosperity.

Key words: male domination or patriarchy, falsely interpretation of religious tenets, gender role, violence against women, subaltern wome

